

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method comprising:
 - 2 sending a message to a receiving module, the message comprising at least one
 - 3 function supported by a sending module along with at least one corresponding function
 - 4 pointer to the at least one function supported by the sending module;
 - 5 receiving from the receiving module a message including at least one function
 - 6 supported by the receiving module along with at least one corresponding function
 - 7 pointer to the at least one function supported by the receiving module; and
 - 8 communicating with the receiving module using the at least one function
 - 9 pointer to the at least one function supported by the receiving module.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
 - 2 determining functions that are called directly, by the sending module and the
 - 3 receiving module; and
 - 4 building an interface using the functions that are called directly, by the sending
 - 5 module and the receiving module.
- 1 3. The method of claim 1 further comprising communicating with the receiving
 - 2 module using messages if the receiving module does not support a particular function.
- 1 4. The method of claim 1 wherein the sending module and the receiving module
 - 2 are locally disposed on a bus.

1 5. The method of claim 4 wherein the bus is at least one of a peripheral component
2 interconnect (PCI) bus, an EISA bus, a PCIX bus, a 3GIO bus, a hyper-transport bus,
3 and an infiniband architecture.

1 6. The method of claim 1 wherein the receiving module communicates with at
2 least one of a controller, and a storage device.

1 7. The method of claim 6 wherein the controller is a network controller.

1 8. The method of claim 1 wherein the sending module and the receiving module
2 communicate with each other via a first processor.

1 9. The method of claim 8 wherein the first processor communicates with a second
2 processor via a bus.

1 10. A method comprising:
2 receiving a message from a sending module, the message comprising of at least
3 one function supported by a sending module along with at least one corresponding
4 function pointer to the at least one function supported by the sending module;
5 sending the sending module a message including at least one function supported
6 by a receiving module along with at least one corresponding function pointer to the at
7 least one function supported by the receiving module; and
1 communicating with the sending module using the function pointer to the at
2 least one function supported by the receiving module.

1 11. The method of claim 10 further comprising:

2 determining functions are called directly, by the sending module and the
3 receiving module; and

4 building an interface using the functions that can be called directly, by the
5 sending module and the receiving module.

1 12. The method of claim 10 further comprising communicating with the sending
2 module using messages if the receiving module does not support a particular function.

1 13. An apparatus comprising:

2 a bus ;

3 a processor communicatively coupled with the bus, said processor to

4 send a message to a receiving module, the message comprising at least one
5 function supported by a sending module along with at least one corresponding function
6 pointer to the at least one function supported by the sending module;

7 receive from the receiving module a message including at least one function
8 supported by the receiving module along with at least one corresponding function
9 pointer to the at least one function supported by the receiving module; and

10 communicate with the receiving module using the function pointer to the at least
11 one function supported by the receiving module.

1 14. The apparatus of claim 13 further comprising said processor to

2 determine functions that are called directly, by the sending module and the
3 receiving module; and

4 build an interface using the functions that are called directly, by the sending
5 module and the receiving module.

1 15. The apparatus of claim 13 further comprising said processor to communicate
2 with the receiving module using messages if the receiving module does not support a
3 particular function.

1 16. The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the sending module and the receiving
2 module are locally disposed on a bus.

1 17. The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the receiving module communicates with at
2 least one of a controller, and a storage device.

1 18. The apparatus of claim 17 wherein the controller is a network controller.

1 19. The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the processor communicates with a second
2 processor via a bus.

1 20. An article of manufacture comprising:
2 a machine-accessible medium including instructions that, when executed by a
3 machine, causes the machine to perform operations comprising
4 sending a message to a receiving module, the message comprising at least one
5 function supported by a sending module along with at least one corresponding function
6 pointer to the at least one function supported by the sending module;

7 receiving from the receiving module a message including at least one function
8 supported by the receiving module along with at least one corresponding function
9 pointer to the at least one function supported by the receiving module; and
10 communicating with the receiving module using the at least one function pointer to the
11 at least one function supported by the receiving module.

1 21. The article of manufacture as in claim 20, further comprising instructions for
2 determining functions that can be called directly, by the sending module and the
3 receiving module; and
4 building an interface using the functions that can be called directly, by the
5 sending module and the receiving module.

1 22. The article of manufacture as in claim 20, further comprising instructions for
2 communicating with the receiving module using messages if the receiving module does
3 not support a particular function.

1 23. The article of manufacture as in claim 20, wherein said instructions for
2 communicating with the receiving module using the at least one function pointer to the
3 at least one function supported by the receiving module includes further instructions for
4 communicating with at least one of a controller, and a storage device.

1 24. An article of manufacture comprising:
2 a machine-accessible medium including instructions that, when executed by a
3 machine, causes the machine to perform operations comprising

receiving a message from a sending module, the message comprising at least one function supported by a sending module along with a corresponding function pointer to the at least one function supported by the sending module;

sending to the sending module a message including at least one function supported by the receiving module along with a corresponding function pointers to the at least one function supported by the receiving module; and communicating with the sending module using the function pointer to the at least one function supported by the receiving module.

25. The article of manufacture as in claim 24, further comprising instructions for determining functions that can be called directly, by the sending module and the receiving module; and

building an interface using the functions that can be called directly, by the sending module and the receiving module.

26. The article of manufacture as in claim 24, further comprising instructions for communicating with the sending module using messages if the receiving module does not support a particular function.